

December 31, 2003

Project 184 Weekly Update
Website: www.project184.org

Summary of Environmental Planning and Compliance Activities
For Project 184
Week Ending December 31, 2003

Mill to Bull Tunnel

The District transmitted a letter this week notifying the RWQCB of the District's transition to annual water quality monitoring of Alder and Bull creeks in accordance with the monitoring and reporting requirements under WDRs 5-00-215. The change follows the District's restoration of the Alder spoils handling area and restoration of the Mill Creek to Bull Creek canal bench. Storm water BMP inspections will continue through winter 2004 at the restored Alder spoils handling area and along the canal bench. Daily and weekly monitoring will need to be resumed at Bull Creek when the District proceeds with reconstruction of Spill 20 during the summer 2004.

Akin Powerhouse Water Quality Monitoring

The final water quality monitoring events were performed on December 17 and 19 upstream and downstream of the Akin Powerhouse. The monitoring began in mid-October and was performed an average of once per week to assess potential changes in water quality during a wide range of start-up and testing procedures for the powerhouse. Results indicate that Akin Powerhouse operations had negligible effects on South Fork American River water quality conditions during the monitoring periods.

January 8, 2004 Ecological Resources Committee Meeting

The District prepared and distributed a proposed agenda for the next (January 8, 2004) meeting of the ERC. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has indicated its intent to participate in the meeting. In preparation for the meeting and for implementing the Settlement Agreement requirements, District staff identified near-term actions to be discussed with the ERC on January 8.

Mill Creek Diversion Modification Project

On December 17, EN2 Resources provided the District the Administrative Final Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration for the borehole project on Mill Creek. The District will finalize and distribute the documents and associated notices in January for public and agency review in accordance with the District's California Environmental Quality Act requirements and ongoing coordination activities with Mill to Bull Tunnel permitting and resource agencies. The documents were postponed for release until the first part of 2004 due to agency concerns with conflicts over the holiday season.

SWPPP measures are in place and inspections are being performed as required.

Powerhouse Update:

EID is operating the powerhouse units 1 and or 2 depending on water supply. Currently we are operating at least one unit 24 hours a day, while we perform further testing. Commissioning is expected to be completed by January 8th, 2004. Between January 5th and January 16th we have a scheduled outage. Erosion control measures have been completed along the powerhouse access road. An emergency Knox box has been installed on the powerhouse gate to allow emergency vehicles access to the powerhouse.

Canal

The flows in the canal are being regulated by A-12 requirements for minimum fish flows. Current flows in canal are ranging between 65-75cfs. The canal is being patrolled on a daily basis and there have been no major problems found which would prevent the canal to be filled to its capacity. SCADA was being manned 24 hours a day to insure the reliable and safe operation of the canal.

On January 5th the canal will be shut off for the dewatering and inspection of the El Dorado and Mill-Bull Tunnel. At that time minor repairs will be made in several areas of the canal. EID crews will be inspecting the Alder and Plum creek siphons at this time.

EID is continually working on its automation to control the diversion structure at the intake to regulate the float controller to allow EID to satisfy the A-12 minimum flow requirements, and place balance of water in canal at A-11. This will allow EID to operate with much tighter flows, maximizing generation production. Mead & Hunt continues to provide engineering support on the remaining tasks to be completed at intake.

The residence houses located on the canal have been filled by Camp #5 Hydro employees which will insure the reliable and safe operation of the canal.

The Bull Portal dewatering pump rewiring is completed and will be tested during the scheduled canal outage between January 5th and January 16th.

The Drill rig has completed all work on Slide located between Flumes 6&7. Horizontal drains have been installed to relieve the water pressure against the canal section. EID has also installed a well point to allow monitoring of the water table in this area. Drains have been installed to transport the drain water from the slide area down the hill 260ft. EID is scheduled to have this area matted and SWPPP measures installed for winter by January 15, 2004.

Tributary flows:

Esmeralda and Ogilby are being utilized in canal due to flows being above required minimum stream flows.

Echo Lake

The flashboards have been removed from the spillway and the facilities have been winterized.

Caples Lake

The flashboards have been removed from the spillway and the facilities have been winterized.

Silver Lake

The radial gates are in the full open position and will remain this way From November 1 to April 1 inclusive. On December 31, 2003 EID ceased drafting operations at Silver Lake and will maintain minimum flows. Facilities have been winterized.

Lake Aloha

Lake Aloha is shut down for the winter, which is the normal operating pattern.

A visit was made October 29, 2003 to Lake Aloha.

Staff 5.64 = 29.5 AF

**Listed below are the Projects readings for December 31, 2003,
Taken from SCADA:**

	Staff	Ac. Ft.	Draft
Echo Lake	.40	1.26	0
Echo Conduit	0		0
Echo Creek	1.70		13.8 cfs
Caples Lake	42.43	11,492	50 cfs
Silver Lake	3.43	914	0 cfs
Pyramid Creek	0	0	

There is 90.0 cfs @ A-11cfs being released into the canal at Intake and 63.1 cfs flowing in the South Fork of the American River at Intake.

A-17 Forebay Storage 3795.0 = 270 AF

A-18 EID Irrigation Usage is .42 = 5.05 cfs.

Mark Korkowski
Co-Head Hydro Operations
530-647-5152

Steve Lindstrom
Water System Supervisor
530-647-5169